



## INTIMATIONS.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED,  
ARE NOW BREWING  
NEW SEASON'S  
CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR CARDS  
INCLUDING SOME  
CHROMOS OF SWISS AND HOME  
SCENERY,  
SUITABLE FOR FRAMING.

## CHRISTMAS CONFECTIONERY

WILL BE OPENED OUT IN A FEW DAYS.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,  
HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, 13th September, 1887.

## MARRIAGE.

At St. John's Church, Hongkong, on the 1st December, by the Rev. William Jennings, M.A., Colonial Chaplain, ALEXANDER HOSIE, M.A., H.B.M.'s Consular Service, China, elder son of the late Alexander Hosie, old absentee, to FREDERICK, second son of the late John Lindsey, Absentee.

## The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, DECEMBER 2ND, 1887.

The rider attached to the verdict of the Coroner's jury in the inquest on the body of the Nautau murderer will hardly command itself to general approval. The man committed suicide in gaol. He seems in the first place to have attempted to hang himself and then to have taken opium. Where he got the string and the opium was not proved, but the jury find that no blame can be attached to any of the gaol officers and that reasonable precautions had been taken. Reasonable precautions indeed! The result itself and the evidence show that there were nothing like reasonable precautions.

The occurrence is simply scandalous. In the best regulated gaols suicides do occur at times, but it is very seldom that prisoners on capital charges are afforded an opportunity of making away with themselves, special precautions being taken in their case. Sometimes, notwithstanding these precautions, a condemned man will anticipate the hangman, but to do so he has to exercise considerable ingenuity or inventiveness. But in Victoria Gaol it would seem that any one can commit suicide. A prisoner in a condition case only a few months ago hanged himself. It appears that string can be procured from the tailor's shop, and that there is not much difficulty in getting opium. Would-be-suicides have therefore a choice as to the means they will employ. That opium is smuggled into the gaol is a matter of notoriety and has been remarked upon by the Commissions and Committees that have at various times sat to inquire into gaol matters. All efforts to stop the practice seem to have proved futile, probably because they were not made in the proper direction. So long as there are Chinese officers employed in the gaol so long will there be a risk of smuggling prohibited articles into the establishment. Even with European officers the risk may not be entirely absent, but with Chinese officers it must be much greater, as their communication with the prisoners and their friends outside is likely to be closer and more direct than that of Europeans, to say nothing of the different views held by Europeans and Chinese as to the immorality of breaches of discipline. Certain it is that in the present case the prisoner obtained opium to poison himself with, and this notwithstanding the fact that the gaol authorities had been especially warned that he was likely to attempt to commit suicide. It was to the interest of his numerous accomplices that this man should accomplish self-destruction, so that no confession might be extorted from him at Canton. No pains would be spared therefore to convey to him the necessary poison. Though not technically, to all intents and purposes he was a condemned man. A clear case of murder had been made out against him in the investigation at the Magistracy, the paper had been sent up to the Governor, in ordinary course an order for execution would have been made, and the prisoner's execution would have followed when he was given up. Under such circumstances a special watch ought to have been kept over him. There seems to have been some idea of taking special precautions, but what did they amount to? The prisoner was placed in a certain hall, "because there was an officer generally [but not always] there to look after him," and where it would seem he had opportunities of communication with other prisoners, for Mr. Jones, the chief warden, is of opinion that the string with which he tried to hang himself was handed to him by a prisoner from the tailor's shop. It is evident from the disclosures made at the inquest that the administration of the gaol leaves much to be desired, notwithstanding the rider attached to the jury's verdict. If the jury were to be invited to express an opinion on the administration of the gaol the evidence placed before them was wholly insufficient to enable them to arrive at an intelligent conclusion. That the prisoner committed suicide was clear, and there was no suspicion, and certainly no evidence, that any of the gaol officials had knowingly and wilfully rendered him assistance in doing so. If it had come out in evidence that an officer had rendered such assistance it would have been the jury's duty to have found him guilty of murder, or if it had come out that an officer had supplied the prisoner with opium as a luxury but without felonious intent it would have been within their province to remark upon it in their verdict. But it was not within their province to enter on an inquiry as to the administration of the gaol in general, and not having sufficient evidence before them it would have been better if they had refrained from expressing an opinion on this point and simply confined themselves to their verdict that the deceased committed suicide. The rest possibility chiefly rests with the Coroner, who asked the jury for an expression of opinion on a subject quite foreign to the inquiry. Mr. Wodehouse himself must see, we think, that a verdict that "no blame could be attached to the gaol

officers" cannot be justified in the absence of evidence as to the duties of the officers and the measure of responsibility attaching to each. *Prima facie* no opium can enter the gaol without a breach of duty on somebody's part or a radical defect in the system. To establish the contrary very strong evidence would be required. No such evidence was produced at the inquest on Wednesday. Yet the jury find that no blame attaches to any one, and that reasonable precautions had been taken, in other words, that the system is perfect—a finding which is negatived by the very fact of the suicide having been committed.

**CHRISTMAS CONFECTIONERY**

WILL BE OPENED OUT IN A FEW DAYS.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,  
HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, 13th September, 1887.

THE numerous fires which have occurred during the last week or two, almost at the commencement of the winter season, suggest anything but pleasant prognostications as to what the total during the season is likely to amount to. The members of the Government Fire Brigade have already, we hear, been talking of petitioning for an increase of pay, and it must certainly be allowed that four and a half dollars a month is very small remuneration for the work that has fallen upon them during the last fortnight. Hardly a day has passed without an alarm, while on somedays there have been several, and although some have proved to be trifling affairs the number of big fires has been quite exceptional. The number of houses destroyed is over fifty, and these were not mere shanties but well built brick houses, and many of them with valuable contents. A crop of fires is of course always expected during the dry season, but with so many as we have had lately it is impossible to avoid a suspicion that they cannot all be attributed to accident. The Chinese themselves do not mind matters, but openly express the opinion that the desire to get the insurance money is the real explanation of many of the fires. And now-a-days, when an insurance of \$10,000 can be effected on the contents of a China house for \$75, with few questions asked, the temptation to upset a lamp is certainly great. Cheap insurance is in itself a good thing, but it may be purchased at too dear a cost to the community. However, there is the fact; insurance is cheap and free frequent; and it behoves the Government to take steps to meet this condition of things. There has during the last few years been a very notable improvement in the fire brigades both as regards efficiency and appliances; but there is still much room for improvement. The steam fire engines might, we think, with advantage be distributed, one at least being stationed in the eastern district and one in the western, instead of all being kept at the Central Fire Brigade Station. Then something might be done in teaching the Chinese how to direct their energies with more advantage. The first engine on the scene of a fire is generally a manual, which might do some good in keeping the adjoining houses wet and so preventing the spread of the flames, but the idea of the Chinaman seems to be to play his hose where the fire is burning most strongly and where the stream of water they can throw is absolutely useless. And even when the brigades have arrived there is still something of the same tendency to be observed, outbreaks in neighbouring houses being neglected until they have gained headway. We have noticed this at several of the recent fires, which we think might have been confined within narrower limits by a more judicious application of the water available. Another point which deserves some attention is the regulation of the numerous private salvage corps. Either the men belonging to these corps are of some use or they are not. If they are they ought to be allowed to pass the Police and get to the scene of the fire, but very often they are turned back along with the general crowd. Certainly they do not seem to be of much use, running about as they do promiscuously with lanterns, without any apparent system of organisation, and yet so much labour one would think might be usefully applied.

The British gun-boat *Wanderer*, Commander Giffard, arrived here yesterday from Foochow.

His Excellency Pak-Chong-tong, Korean Minister to the United States, left here yesterday on board the C. & G. steamer *Canton*.

The Agents (Messrs. Siemens & Co.) inform us that the Glen Line steamer *Glenaray*, from London, left Singapore yesterday for this port.

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The French transport *Cocher* arrived at Singapore on the 21st November with about 800 troops from Cochinchina, and was to leave for Algiers after loading.

His Excellency Governor Sir William Deane paid a visit yesterday on board the Chinese steamer *Ching Yuen* to Admiral Lang, and received the usual salute on his departure.

Last night a Chinaman named Yip Akun, a contractor's foreman, fell down dead in Hollywood, probably of heart disease. The body was taken to the Central Station and from thence removed to the mortuary.

We have to acknowledge the receipt, from the local agents (Messrs. Gilman & Co.), of a calendar for 1888 issued by the North British and Mercantile Insurance Company. It is a neat and useful date indicator.

The vessels which arrived from the south yesterday report heavy weather, and the steamers *Glengary* and *Tanqueray* appear to have encountered a swish of the typhoon recently announced from Manila, as they met a heavy gale on the 27th ult.

The Agents (Messrs. Adamson, Bell & Co.) inform us that the Canadian Pacific steamer *Portia*, from Vancouver with the Canadian mail of the 9th ult., has arrived in Yokohama, and will leave that port for Hongkong, via Kobe, on the 3rd inst.

Yesterday morning, Mr. Teisuke Minami, Consul for Japan, paid a visit to Admiral Lang and was saluted on leaving the vessel. Colonel Withers, American Consul, also paid a visit to the Ching Yuen on the day.

The steamer *Japet*, which arrived from Calcutta yesterday, brought on 330 cases Benares and 165 Pata opium, 259 bales gunnies, 2231 bags salpeter, 164 half cotton, 74 bales twine, 400 cases castor oil, 987 bags pepper, and 11,923 packages sundries.

The following telegram, dated Paris, October 31, is published in *The Times*:—Dr. Seller, the medical man on board the *Mesualat*, which was wrecked in Chinese waters last May, has published a long letter charging the captain and crew of the *Glenelsh* with pilfering the ship which they had undertaken to bring to safety. The letter could not be read at this distance; but the fact is, however, more money to be made in smuggling Chinese wants, and doing their work for payment, than in taking the risk and finding the capital in the hope of prospective profits.

The Indian Statesman of the 11th ult. says:—Sir Dinsay Manjek Path has now accepted the post of Legal Counsellor of India, which as previously stated, had been offered him by the Vicerey and which he first declined. Sir Dinsay will be the first *Parsi* to sit in the Legislative Council of the Supreme Government.

A telegram, received from the Civil and Military Governor of Achmedabad and Dangadpur, dated 2nd November, published in the official *Times* of 15th November says:—On 6th November attack *Edu* repulsed with great success. Enemy lost 51 dead behind including leader. We have one wounded. Spirit of troops excellent.

M. Richard has been appointed Resident-General in Tonquin in succession to M. Monier. M. Richard, who is forty years of age, was born in the city of Nanking in 1851, and attained the rank of Inspector in 1883. He has held the offices of Director of the Interior in Roumien, Governor of French India, and Governor of Roumien.

The Bangkok correspondent of the *Strait Times* says that on the 14th ult. there was launched from the pier of the Bangkok *Steamship Company Limited*, the first steamer of the recently formed *Mocean Flotilla Co. Limited*, for the Borneo Company, the managing agents in Bangkok. The company has been formed to build vessels for the purpose of opening up trade with the interior of Siam, and is intended to be worked on similar principles to the already existing Flotilla Co. of Burma.

A placard was recently posted in Hanoi proclamining a series of plagues which was to commence on the 1st of last month. The announcement is said to have come from the French Consul, Mr. Lefebvre, who is in charge of the Consulate of France in Hanoi. The placard, which was written in French, states that the French Consul has been born rather frequently, and these calamities have been attributed to the evil spirits. The placard suggests that the placard was posted simply for the sake of bringing men to the temples and the houses.

A Chinaman who was arrested on a charge of upsetting a lamp is certainly great. Cheap insurance is in itself a good thing, but it may be purchased at too dear a cost to the community. However, there is the fact; insurance is cheap and free frequent; and it behoves the Government to take steps to meet this condition of things. There has during the last few years been a very notable improvement in the fire brigades both as regards efficiency and appliances; but there is still much room for improvement. The steam fire engines might, we think, with advantage be distributed, one at least being stationed in the eastern district and one in the western, instead of all being kept at the Central Fire Brigade Station.

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The chief officer of the German steamer *Sury Wong*, which arrived at Singapore from Hongkong on the night of the 18th November, reports that the *Siamese* had a swish of wind from the north east, and a gale from the west, which caused the *Sury Wong* to run aground on the rocks of the island bearing S.W. & W. When the anchor was hoisted up next morning to enter the harbour the captain could not be found, so the supposition is that he has gone overboard, but in what manner is not known.

Captain Vorraff succeeded Captain Mohen in the command of the *Sury Wong* in April of this year, and had navigated the steamer for over 20 years in command of various vessels.

He was a native of Hainan, and had left several children in Bangkok.

The *Penang Gazette* reports a marauders attack made by a crew on Mr. C. Cremer, Surveyor, residing in Little Street. It appears that the dispute had arisen between Mr. Cremer and the crew, when the latter called on the surveyor standing on the beach. This is reported to have been done in the course of a quarrel, and the crew had got hold of a gun and had shot him. The surveyor was hoisted up next morning to enter the harbour the captain could not be found, so the supposition is that he has gone overboard, but in what manner is not known.

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## NOTICES OF FIRMS.

## TO BE LET.

TO BE LET.—AT THE PEAK.  
For 5 Months from the 1st January Next.

**T**HIS Undersigned has been appointed SUPERINTENDENT of the PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S BUSINESS, in China.

E. L. WOODIN,  
Hongkong, 23rd November, 1887. [2307]

## NOTICE.

**T**HIS Undersigned, having WITHDRAWN his Capital as a Partner of the TUCK LEE Company, at Short's Ferry, Hongkong, has from this date NO FURTHER INTEREST or RESPONSIBILITY in the above named Shop, whereof LAT PO is now a PARTNER in his stead, in conjunction with YEUNG FU YING.

At the same time, for the Loans, Money Lend Socieites, Doubts, &c., &c., the TUCK LEE SHOP may have incurred, the undersigned is NOT RESPONSIBLE, it being LAT PO's business to settle them.

LISHU NAM.

Hongkong, 24th November, 1887. [2313]

## NOTICE.

**M**R. HENRY BROOKE ELLERTON is authorized to SIGN our Firm, per procuration.

GALTON & Co.  
Foochow, 8th November, 1887. [2313]

## INSURANCES.

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, OF 1877  
IN HAMBURG.

**T**HIS Undersigned, Agents of the above Company, are Prepared to ACCEPT RISKS at Current Rates.

PUSTAU & Co.,  
Agents.

Hongkong, 13th January, 1884. [157]

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**T**HIS Undersigned, Agents of the above Company, are Prepared to ACCEPT RISKS at Current Rates.

PUSTAU & Co.,  
Agents.

Hongkong, 13th January, 1884. [157]

## NOTICE.

**A**FURNISHED HOUSE in thorough repair with TENNIS COURTS.

Apply to

Mr. WILLMOTT,  
Hongkong Dispensary.

Hongkong, 23rd November, 1887. [2320]

## NOTICE.

**A**FURNISHED HOUSE at the PEAK, for Four Months.

Apply to

ALFRED G. WIRE,  
Bank Buildings.

Hongkong, 1st December, 1887. [2330]

## NOTICE.

**O**NE LARGE GODOWN at WANCHAI.

Apply to

E. D. SASSOON, & Co.

Hongkong, 1st December, 1887. [2331]

## NOTICE.

**R**OOMS IN "COLLEGE CHAMBERS."

Apply to

DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.

Hongkong, 30th July, 1886. [142]

## NOTICE.

**F**IRE DEPARTMENT.

Polices issued for long or short periods at current rates.

## NOTICE.

**H**ONGKONG WHARF & GODOWNS.

Goods received on STORAGE at Moderate Rates, in First-class Godowns.

**S**TEAMER CARGOES discharged on favourable terms.

Apply to

CUTLER PALMER & Co's.  
WINES AND SPIRITS.

Hongkong, 16th January, 1884. [19]

## NOTICE.

**C**HAMPAGNE "MONOPOLE" REIDSTECK & Co.—

MONOPOLE RED SEAL (medium dry).

Do. "red" RED FOIL (dry).

Do. GOLD FOIL (dry).

Do. Do. (extra dry).

CARLOWITZ & Co.

So Agents for

HEIDSTECK & Co., BEIJING.

Hongkong, 1st September, 1887. [171]

## NOTICE.

**T**HE MAN ON INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

CAPITAL (SUBSCRIBED), \$1,000,000.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

LUM SIN, Eng.

CHAN HUP, Eng.

YOUNG CHENG, Eng.

CHAN LI CHOY, Eng.

HOI CHUEN, Eng.

The Company GRANTS POLICIES on MARINE RISKS to all parts of the World, payable at any of its Agencies.

Contributory Dividends are payable to all Contributors of Business, whether they are Shareholders or not.

WOO LIN YUEN,

Secretary.

HEAD OFFICE—No. 2 Queen's Road West, Hongkong, 14th March, 1881. [1782]

## NOTICE.

**T**RANSATLANTIC FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HAMBURG.

The Undersigned, having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS against FIRE at Current Rates.

SIEGMESSEN & Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 16th November, 1887. [14]

## NOTICE.

**S**TYLUS & CO. LTD.

Agents.

Hongkong, 16th July, 1887. [60]

## NOTICE.

**S**TANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

REDUCTION IN RATES.

**A**REDUCTION in the RATES of PREMIUM has been made on all POLICIES from this date.

For further Particulars, Apply to,

THE BORNEO COMPANY, LIMITED.

Agents.

Hongkong, 15th November, 1887. [2212]

## NOTICE.

**N**ORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Undersigned, Agents of the above Company, are authorized to INSURE against FIRE at Current Rates.

GILMAN & Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 1st January, 1882. [16]

## NOTICE.

**P**HENIX FIRE OFFICE

The Undersigned, having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to GRANT POLICIES of INSURANCE against FIRE at Current Rates.

DOUGLAS LAFRAIK & Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 17th August, 1887. [18]

## NOTICE.

**G**ENERAL LIFE AND FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Undersigned, having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to GRANT POLICIES of INSURANCE against FIRE and LIFE at Current Rates.

PUSIAU & Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 1st April, 1888. [188]

## NOTICE.

**N**ORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY AT HAMBURG.

The Undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to GRANT INSURANCES to the extent of \$85,000, on first-class risks at current rates.

MELCHEES & Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 27th March, 1887. [12]

## NOTICE.

**C**ALEDONIAN FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1865.

The Undersigned, having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to issue Policies of Insurance against Fire on the usual terms.

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, January, 1882. [188]

## NOTICE.

**T**HE LATEST ADVANCE IN LIFE INSURANCE.

THE NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY'S 5 YEAR DIVIDEND POLICY.

This Policy commences the option of terminating his Insurance at the end of any 5 Year period, and receiving for his Policy a cash surrender value together with his share of accumulated surplus apportioned as a dividend. If death occurs, the full amount of the Policy will be paid immediately on proof of death, together with Monthly Dividend of 50 per cent. of all premiums received during the 5 Year period in which death may have occurred.

For specific and full particulars may be had on application to

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,

Acting Agents.

Hongkong, 16th January, 1887. [91]

## TO BE LET.

## FOR SALE.

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